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TITLE	The Science Detectives.
INSTITUTION	Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence Inst., Mountain View, CA.
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AVAILABLE FROM	Teacher Ideas Press, Division of Libraries Unlimited, P.O. Box 6633, Englewood, CO 80155-6633.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Classroom Use - Teaching Guides (For Teacher) (052) -- Audiovisual/Non-Print Materials (100)
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DESCRIPTORS	Astronomy; Cooperative Learning; Elementary Education; Hands on Science; Interdisciplinary Approach; Measurement; Problem Solving; *Science Activities; Science Process Skills; *Space Sciences
IDENTIFIERS	*Extraterrestrial Life

ABSTRACT

The possibility of life on other planets holds enormous fascination for people of all ages. This interdisciplinary learning kit uses that theme to launch scientific learning in young students. Through a series of hands-on activities, it directs participants to solve an outer space mystery thereby acquiring and developing scientific knowledge and skills. As participants in an exciting space adventure, students trace the travels of an astronaut and radio astronomer who is searching the solar system for the source of a mysterious radio signal. Clues provided lead young learners to explore features of the solar system, states of matter, lenses and magnification, and large-scale measurements. The kit includes a videotape that offers clues and shows the progress of the adventure, and a color poster that illustrates key concepts. These sequential, interdisciplinary science activities present pivotal science concepts, forge links between disciplines, and teach students the real-life methods of science. By constructing a variety of models, students acquire and sharpen their skills in attribute recognition, cooperative learning, mapping, measurement, problem solving, and the scientific process. (JRH)

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